



United States Department of Interior
106 North Parkmont

Bureau of Land Management

Butte Field Office
Butte, Montana 59701

Contact: Marilyn Krause
Phone: (406) 533-7617

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BEETLE TRAPS INSTALLED NEAR CLANCY

BUTTE – (August 16, 2004) – Forest treatment work is underway just west of Clancy, about 12 miles south of Helena, and public land users in the area are cautioned not to cut firewood or disturb pine beetle traps.

“The contractor is removing ponderosa pine for forest health and fuel reduction, including some trees infested with the mountain pine beetle,” said Mike Small, forester for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Butte. “While these mountain pine beetles are removed with the logs, the slash piles created earlier this year attract pine engraver bark beetles which attack smaller logs and limbs that we wouldn’t want spread into healthy trees by firewood cutters taking infested wood to their homes.”

Funnel-shaped traps baited with a pheromone to attract beetles are installed in the area to keep beetles from spreading until the piles can be burned.

“The traps contain live beetles that will escape if disturbed,” commented Small, “and we’re asking ‘folgers’ and other recreationists that use the area not to disrupt the traps.”

When conditions allow, the slash piles will be burned either this fall or next spring. For more information, call Mike Small at the BLM Butte Field Office, (406) 533-7600.